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then that these are the data of our feeling of time seems to be begging the question.

The book contributes nothing to the problem of the origin of language. In taking the position that the use of trope and not articulate language separates man from the animals (Chapter II), it seems to be using *articulate* in the sense of *uttered, spoken*; but what men mean by articulate speech when they deny it to animals is that orderly grouping of words corresponding to ideas articulated logically so as to produce an intended end. It is true animals do not use metaphor; it is almost equally evident they do not form concepts,—the first requisite in reasoning. Nor is the discussion of the development of speech in the race in the least fruitful. The development of the child linguistically contributes little to our knowledge of that general development; for there is no meaning to the babblings of an infant until the mother has by gestures or in other ways aroused an association in the child's mind between certain sounds and certain objects. The statement, "Every mother in the world, of whatever race, can understand the baby talk of any child of the race" (p. 20) is in its extravagance typical of the book. Much less space, indeed, might have expressed all that is valuable in it either as science or as poetry. MARLOW A. SHAW.

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- (1) *Les dégénérescences auditives.* Par A. MARIE. 1909. pp. 111.
- (2) *Rééducation physique et psychique.* Par H. LAVRAND. 1909. pp. 123.
- (3) *Les folies à éclipse.* Par LEGRAIN. 1910. pp. 120.
- (4), (5) *Les rêves et leur interprétation.* Par P. MEUNIER et R. MASSELON. 1910. pp. 213.
- (6) *La suggestion et ses limites.* Par BAJENOFF et OSSIPOFF. 1911. pp. 119.
- (7), (8) *La psychologie de l'attention.* Par N. VASCHIDE et R. MEUNIER. 1910. pp. 199.

These six volumes form nos. 12-19 of the *Bibliothèque de Psychologie expérimentale et de Métapsychie*, edited by Dr. Raymond Meunier and issued by the Librairie Bloud et Cie of Paris.

(1) Dr. Marie, senior physician at the Asile de Villejuif, published in 1908 (as no. 3 of the present series) a little book entitled *L'Audition morbide*, in which he briefly discussed the pathological physiology of hearing in cases of mental and nervous disease. The work before us is concerned with the principal anatomical anomalies of the peripheral or central auditory apparatus. After a general introduction, treating of the difficulties of diagnosis, the diagnostic value of symptoms, etc., the author takes up in order, from without inwards, the various divisions of the auditory mechanism. To the chapter on the external and middle ear he contributes a table of auricular measurements, with their craniological complements. The chapter on the internal ear is sketchy; in particular, the problem of heredity should have been approached in the light of the Mendelian hypothesis. In the chapter on central lesion and cortical hearing, the author quotes, apparently with approval, the opinion of Dr. P. Marie that isolated sensory aphasia, and especially pure verbal deafness, does not occur. He here describes a case (with autopsy) of dementia with motor verbal aphasia, agraphia to dictation, and verbal deafness. A final chapter deals with arrest of auditory development, physical and mental. Dr. Marie insists strongly on the necessity of a precise diagnosis of the cause of deaf-mutism, and pleads for systematic education of such patients as are educable. It seems clear that the appeal to public sentiment made in this chapter was the author's chief motive in writing the book.

(2) According to Dr. Lavrand, who is professor at Lille, mind and body are not separate and separable phenomena, but constitute a 'substantial unity'; mind therefore acts upon body, body upon mind. There is, indeed, a constant interaction among all organic functions, the conscious included;

and since the symptoms of functional disturbance far outrun, in most cases, the actual lesion of the organism, there is good hope of a successful re-education. The model for this is, of course, given with the primary process, that of education; the author accordingly outlines the genesis of ideas in the child, the growth in complexity of bodily movements, and the co-function of ideas and movements in what he calls psychomotor acts; he finally formulates the end of education as the transformation of conscious and attentively executed actions into subconscious or automatic activity. Passing from theory to practice, he first takes up the question of mental reeducation, *i. e.*, of the effect of psychotherapeutics upon various forms of mental disorder, from hysteria down to a practically normal psychasthenia. Next follows a chapter on motor reeducation,—locomotor ataxia, paralysis, tics, speech derangements, aphasia, deaf-mutism,—which contains much empirical material, plainly of the writer's own observation. Dr. Lavrand then proceeds to discuss sensory reeducation, with special reference to Rousselot's method of treating deafness; organic reeducation, with reference to imaginary dyspepsia; respiratory reeducation, with reference to the alleviation of asthma; and ends with a brief mention of circulatory reeducation, and of the reeducation (or rather education) of the idiot by Bourneville's method.

(3) The third volume on our list, from the pen of Dr. Legrain, senior physician of the hospitals for the insane in the Department of Seine, is mainly taken up with the symptomatology of what the author terms eclipsed insanities. There is, says, Dr. Legrain, between the conscious and the unconscious, a wide region of subconsciousness; it is manifest in the phenomena of instinct and habit, and covers the whole field of the forgotten. This subconsciousness is not inactive; it has its own life and activity, even though it does not come to consciousness. Wherever, now, there is mental disorder involving hallucinatory experiences, the contents of the hallucination may disappear into the subconscious; the patient is then not cured, though he is free of the obsessing ideas; the hallucinations are under eclipse, but may emerge again. (A second volume is to be devoted to this fact of resuscitation.) The impermanence of the cure is favored by general mental weakness; and the condition of eclipse is evidenced by the fact that the hallucinations are accepted by the apparently normal patient as real items of past experience. In conclusion, the author recommends to experimental psychologists the study of the hallucinatory idea, especially under the headings of strength and duration of impression.

(4), (5) The work of Drs. Meunier and Masselon, on dreams and their interpretations, opens with a psychological analysis, couched in general terms, of the nature and sources of the dream-consciousness. The writers regard all dreams, except those that appear in the hypnagogic state just before or after sleep, as in some measure pathological. They attach special importance to dreams of coenæsthetic or organic origin, which are of two kinds: in the one case, the organic derangement is clearly localized, and the dream-images bear directly upon it; in the other, the organic state is intellectualized by way of a diffuse emotion, and the dream-images are emotively suggested. These dreams constitute "a veritable microscope of sensibility; they throw into relief slight disturbances that escape the notice of the waking consciousness." A review of dreams in general pathology, in infections and intoxications, in neurotic conditions, and in the various forms and stages of insanity—this review makes up the body of the book—shows, in fact, that they may reveal a functional disturbance which is not apparent in the waking life, and which may be the indication either of some organic disease or of a hitherto latent mode of mental disequilibration. Dreams are thus a touchstone of the stability of the psychophysical organism. If they are ordinarily neglected, in prognosis, this is only because they are considered too delicate and too variable a reagent for the physician's purpose. In fact, however, there are certain

characters that make them available. There is first of all distress, especially when intense (as terror) and sharply localized (as physical pain); this may lead to the sleeper's actual arousal in the middle of the night; and the arousal, if really due to the distress, is unquestionably a pathological symptom. The homogeneity of the dream, shown perhaps in the recurrence of leading motives, is also evidence of the persistence of the causal substrate. The stereotyped dream attests the presence of an identical cause, organic or psychic, which exerts its influence at recurrent intervals of time. (The writers emphasize the importance of this phenomenon of stereotypism of dreams, and devote a special chapter to its consideration.) The fact that a dream is remembered on waking is also significant. The contents of the dream, finally, must always be taken into account. No one of these characters, it is true, stamps the condition of the dreamer as at all gravely pathological; but each and all of them point to an anomaly, to a nervous susceptibility, and so suggest a closer study of the patient's bodily and mental state. In a word, dreams have a very real prognostic value; but they are indicative only, and not demonstrative; and the indication should not be acted upon till it has been confirmed by other and more technical methods of examination.

(6) Professor Bajenoff and Dr. Ossipoff, leading alienists of Moscow, write upon the facts and theories of suggestion. The six chapters which make up the book, entitled respectively the history of hypnosis and suggestion, psychological automatism, hypnotism and suggestion, collective suggestion, current theories of therapeutic theory, and the psychological mechanism of suggestion, contain little more than a brief résumé of the work done and the views expressed by other investigators; but the authors command a clear and vivid style, and have the happy knack of literary illustration,—as when they draw upon certain of Tolstoi's characters to exemplify the procedure of psychotherapy. The central aim of the book is the divorce of suggestion from hypnosis. Suggestion is not the essential characteristic of hypnosis; it may be exerted more effectually in the waking state (p. 11). It is ordinarily supposed that the subject in profound hypnosis is peculiarly liable to suggestion; "this opinion is absolutely erroneous" (p. 36). Hypnotic suggestion has its definite limits (pp. 39 ff., 114); while suggestibility itself is a psychophysiological phenomenon of practically universal occurrence (pp. 58, 112). The mechanism of suggestion is described, schematically, as "the disaggregation of psychical activity, the rupture of the normal co-ordination and subordination of the elements of the mental life, and, as a result, the more or less complete dissociation of the personality" (pp. 35, 113).

(7), (8) The *Psychology of Attention*, written in collaboration with the late Dr. Vaschide by Dr. R. Meunier, psychopathologist at the Asile de Villejuif, is a companion volume to the *Pathology of Attention* (no. 5 of this series) published by the same authors in 1908. It is not a text-book in the psychology of attention; the writers' intention is at once narrower and wider than that of the compiler; they present, first, a report of carefully selected experimental data, and on the basis of this approved material they rise to an inclusive theory of attention in dynamic terms. The first two chapters discuss the technique of the study of attention and the results of experimental investigation; the reader—unless he recall the contents of the previous volume—will be surprised to find that the great bulk of the space is given to the reaction experiment. However, the complete programme of an experimental enquiry would cover, in the authors' judgment, ten tests; those of cutaneous sensitivity, of muscular strength voluntarily exerted, of speed of movement, of voluntary attention (cancelling letters, discrimination of forms applied to wrist or palm, grasp of the sense of a printed page by a rapid glance over it), of color-vision and extent of the visual field, of audition and extent of the auditory field, of rapidity of thought (reaction experiment in various forms), of memory of words and

figures, of mental arithmetic, and of association of ideas. "The examination of a subject by means of these ten experimental series will show that it is possible to catch the attention at work, to seize its dynamic character. And theoretical conceptions will in so far be modified" (p. 61). It seems to the reviewer that some of the tests would require a great deal of psychological interpretation before they could be turned to account for the characterization of attention; at all events, the writers do not justify their statement. Chapter 3, on attention during sleep, reports an experimental study (made by Vaschide) of the ability to wake at a set time in the morning. Out of 40 chosen subjects, of different sex, age (20 to 76), occupation, education and nationality, 33 proved available for the test. The tendency was to wake too early; the amount of error, for 26 subjects, was in rough average 21 minutes; the error might, however, be as great as an hour and a half, and might reduce to 12 seconds. The chapter gives many interesting facts, objective and introspective, but offers no connected theory of the phenomenon. Ch. 4, on suggestibility and attention, reports Binet's experiments on the suggestibility of school-children (lines, weights), and concludes that, while there is no direct relation between suggestibility and attention, suggestibility may be considered as a state of emotive disturbance, the first effect of which is a disturbance of attention. Ch. 5, on hypnosis and attention, is mainly occupied with an account of Beaunis' well-known experiments. No theory of hypnosis is at present possible; it is, however, characterized rather by paraprosexia than by hyperprosexia,—that is, if the reviewer understands these terms, rather by diversion of attention than by extreme concentration of attention,—and by a high development of the 'forces of automatic attention.' Ch. 6 reviews and criticises the prevailing theories of attention, under the rubrics peripheral, motor, affective (Ribot, Bain), and sensory, voluntaristic, perceptive, central (Marillier, Kreibig, Rageot, Nayrac). The authors conclude that attention is intimately related to emotion; that it is a phenomenon of central origin; and that it is essentially a dynamic function. "It is to the intellect what reflex irritability is to the nervous system; it is not a state, but an act." Let us hope that they find this conclusion satisfactory!—

As, now, we glance back over this series of books, we realize that, while they leave much to be desired on the score of systematic presentation, they are none the less readable and valuable, since every writer has some personal contribution to make to the existing stock of knowledge. A good part of the contents strikes the reader as perfunctory; but there is always some central chapter which brings new material or original ideas. Whether, under these circumstances, it is worth while to publish books rather than special articles is, perhaps, a question of taste; the reviewer, for his part, would prefer to dispense with the second-hand discussions.

The proof-reading is usually poor. The punctuation is erratic; the line-divisions show such monstrosities as *ins-upportable*, *o-bservation*; and names are massacred (Et. Slomon for E. E. Slosson, etc.).

JAMES FIELD

*The World of Dreams*, by HAVELOCK ELLIS. Boston & New York, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1911. pp. xii., 288. Price \$2.00 net.

There are at least four different ways, Mr. Ellis tells us, of writing a book on dreams. There is the literary method, which may be dismissed at once as wholly unscientific; there is the clinical method, followed for instance by de Sanctis in his *I Sogni*; there is the experimental method, of which Mourly Vold has recently given us an excellent example; and there is the introspective method, for a special form of which we are referred, rather curiously, to Freud's *Traumdeutung*. However, we need not split hairs about classification. The field of dreams is, in fact, the playground of all sorts of psychological opinion; the time has not yet come for anything like a final synthesis; and so long as an author appeals to actual observa-